

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-14 have been re-drafted as new claims 15-28, respectively, to overcome the issues prompting the rejections of claims 1-14 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Claims 22 and 25-28 recite the re-drafted subject matter of original claims 8 and 11-14, which had no art-based rejections applied to them. Therefore, allowance of claims 22 and 25-28 is warranted.

Claims 1, 4-7, 9, and 10 were rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Maier-Laxhuber et al. (US 5,415,012) in view of Blaizat et al. (FR 2 820 196). Claims 2 and 3 were rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Maier-Laxhuber in view of Blaizat and further in view of Fischer et al. (US 5,513,500). To the extent these rejections may be deemed applicable to corresponding new claims 15-21, 23, and 24, the Applicants respectfully traverse.

New claim 15 recites:

An aircraft food chilling system comprising:  
insulated trolleys for chilling food;  
a removable unit, for each trolley, that can be inserted in and removed from the trolley as a single piece and that can produce cold inside the trolley, each removable unit having a controllable reversible solid/gas adsorption reactor containing a regeneratable adsorbent; and

a means for regenerating the adsorbent, within the removable unit associated with each trolley, that is provided on the ground, outside the aircraft.

The applied references fail to suggest the feature recited in claim 15 of a removable unit, having a controllable reversible solid/gas adsorption reactor containing a regeneratable adsorbent, that can be inserted in and removed from a trolley as a single piece and that can produce cold inside the trolley.

The Office Action proposes that Maier-Laxhuber discloses an insulated trolley 30 equipped with a removable tray 31 and a single piece 32 that can produce cold inside the trolley (Office Action page 3, lines 3-5). However, as made clear in the Office Action, the proposed removable tray 31 and single piece 32 that produces cold are two distinct units.

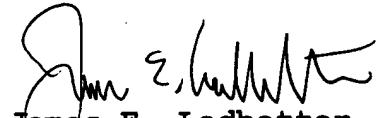
Applicants claim a removable unit that produces cold. By contrast to the claimed feature, Maier-Laxhuber's proposed teaching is a first unit that is removable and a second unit that produces cold. And neither Blaizat nor Fischer are cited in the Office Action for surmounting Maier-Laxhuber's deficiency.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the applied references do not teach or suggest the subject matter of claim 15. Therefore, it is submitted that allowance of claim 15 and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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